



ARIZONA COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING

Commission Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

DES Director's Conference Room

1717 W Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present:

Michael Traylor, Co-Chair, Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH); Clarence H. Carter, Co-Chair, Department of Economic Security (DES); Amy Schwabenlender (Sitting in for Brian Spicker), Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW); Cory Nelson (Sitting in for Will Humble), Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS); Jenifer Thornton, City of Sierra Vista; Karen Hellman (Sitting in for Charles Ryan), Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC); Sean Price (Sitting in for Ted Vogt), Arizona Department of Veteran's Services (AZDVS); Ted Williams, Arizona Behavioral Health Corporation (ABC) and Terri Leveton, Nova Safe Haven.

Commissioners Absent:

Brian Spicker, VSUW; Charles Ryan, ADC; David Sherman, The Salvation Army, White Mountain Outpost; Darlene Newsom, United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM); Frank Migali, Department of Education (ADE); Mark Holleran, Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS); Robert Halliday, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS); Tammy Paz-Combs, Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF); Ted Vogt, AZDVS and Will Humble, ADHS.

Staff Present:

Melanie Starns, DES; Lynn Larson, DES; Raoul Sada, DES; Donna Bleyle, DES; April Miles, ADHS-Division of Behavioral Services (DBHS); Danelle Valenzuela, ADHS-DBHS; Kelly Charbonnear, ADHS-DBHS; Michelle Skurka, ADHS-DBHS and Priscilla Cruz, DES.

Guest Present:

Mariam Chase, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), Government Project Officer for the State-Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI-State) (via teleconference).

Welcome and Introductions:

Co-Chair Traylor called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes:

Co-Chair Carter called for a motion to approve the Tuesday, January 21, 2014 meeting minutes as written. Jenifer Thornton requested an adjustment to her announcement on the improvements being done to their shelter. Cory Nelson called for the motion to approve the minutes with the added adjustment and Commissioner Leveton seconded. The Commissioners in attendance approved the motion with the added adjustment. The adjustment will be reflected in the January 21, 2014 minutes and they have been re-issued to the Commission.

Committee Reports

Housing Committee: Co-Chair Traylor reported on this committee stating the Locator tool is up and running and functioning well. The Committee's main focus now is to discern a better system for the

different housing communities to provide monthly updates on the availability of units which will help expedite the process for case workers placing individuals into housing.

Data & Studies Committee: Commissioner Williams reported on this committee stating that while the Committee has not yet had the opportunity to meet he considers the merger of the Data Management and Studies and Surveys Committees to be a benefit to both endeavors.

Commissioner Leveton noted that some sub-committees of the Maricopa County Continuum of Care, which will interface with the work of this Committee, have been meeting with the specific goal of setting up performance standards based on best practices for the coordinated assessment process and how that integrates into special needs and supportive services when an individual is entered into permanent supportive housing.

Continuum of Care Committee: Co-Chair Traylor reported on this committee stating that there have been some Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) problems which are currently being worked on. Donna Bleyle noted that this Committee also has not had the opportunity to meet and since the regional meetings for the Balance of State Continuum of Care are being held during March and April the Committee will not have a chance to meet until after these meetings have occurred.

Donna Bleyle reported that both the Balance of State and Maricopa County will be utilizing the services of Community Information and Referral (CIR) as their data systems service. Also, both the Balance of State and Maricopa County have decided to utilize the Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT).

Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) Presentation:

April Miles of ADHS-DBHS gave a brief presentation on the Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) Grant. The main goal of this grant is to improve outcome among the chronically homeless and to enhance our state infrastructure by establishing a state wide comprehensive, integrated system of care based on a set of principles and guidelines that will support a successful transition to permanent housing for individuals who are chronically homeless and who have substance abuse or mental disorders. The grant amount awarded is \$711,818 with a project period of September 30, 2013 to September 29, 2016. The counties to be served by this grant are Yavapai and Coconino. This project will seek to serve 35 individuals per grant year with an overall of 105 individuals being served over the grant period, which is three years. The partners collaborating on this project are: Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA), Catholic Charities, Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH), Project for Assistance to Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Teams and the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

Arizona StandDown Results:

Sean Price of AZDVS gave a brief update on the unofficial number of individuals served at the Arizona StandDown in Maricopa County. There were 1,759 veterans served with over 75 percent of these veterans coming from permanent housing and 25 percent homeless or in a shelter system. The number of women veterans served was 156 with 73 female spouses also being served. There were 931 court dockets opened and 500 DMV credentials issued. There were also 56 chronically homeless veterans who were served, of those 56 individuals 35 were connected to HUD VASH.

Co-Chair Carter noted that the shift from 25 percent of veterans being housed to 75 percent being housed is excellent and is due to the laser like focus of this particular objective. While the numbers are encouraging we need to ensure that we continue to focus on the primary goal of ending veteran homelessness.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Leveton announced that as of April 1, 2014 Nova Safe Haven will be known as TERROS.

Future Agenda Items:

- Follow up report from Sean Price on the Arizona StandDown.
- Donna Bleyle to bring Point in Time numbers to the next meeting.

Call to the Public:

- No comments were issued at this time.

Next Meeting:

The next ACHH meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2014.

Adjourn:

Co-Chair Carter adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.